

LWV Clackson Voter



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY

JUNE 2024

JUNE	DAY	TIME	PRIDE MONTH
8	SAT	10am	League Invited to March in the Portland Rose Parade!
13	THU	1:30pm	Book Club 'The Shadow Docket' at Mary's Woods Pepin Bldg in Lake Oswego
15	SAT	2:00pm	go.lincc.org/ojuneteenth and Juneteenth
20	THU	TBD	Clackamas County Board of County Commissioner Budget Vote
27-30	SAT	10am	2024 LWVUS Convention
AHEAD	DAY	TIME	SUMMER AND EARLY FALL BEFORE THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION
July	31		100 Days Until Election Day National Voter Registration Day
Aug	21	12:30pm	Unit Meeting in Wilsonville: SCOTUS Focus/Part III of <i>Reading the Constitution</i>
Sept	16-20		National Voter Registration Week of Action
Sept	23-25		Interim Oregon Legislative Days
Early Oct	TBD	TBD	Fall Kickoff - Contact Core Team to get involved info@lwvclackamas.org



WELCOME OUR FIRST-TIME VOTER MEMBER

by Diana DeMaria, Membership membership@lwvclackamas.org

Please welcome our newest member, **Tallulah Sprague**, who will be voting for the first time in the 2024 General Election this fall, just in time for the LWV “Year of the First-Time Voter”! If you need help to access that section or request a link to the current online directory, please email membership@lwvclackamas.org.

THREE STATE STUDIES COMING NEXT YEAR

by Core Team | Libby Medley, Nancy Murray and Carolyn Robb info@lwvclackamas.org

Although our League program takes a summer break, some of us will be planning for the coming year, with **Diana DeMaria** and **Sarah Napier** attending the LWVUS convention in Washington, DC as our delegates, and a few who will be following Clackamas County governmental actions. The core team will focus on involving our unit (small group) meetings to discuss and then come to consensus or concurrence to support the state's three studies requested by the League of Women Voters of Oregon:

- the recall process in Oregon, a significant update of our current position
- a consensus study (just arrived) with the goal of adding to the current Childcare position
- and a proposal to adopt a K-12 education position by concurrence with another League in the spring of 2025

Our state League has a very active action/advocacy team who will again be writing important and well researched testimony for the long legislative session in 2025. These updated and expanded positions will allow us to better address these critical issues.

THE SHADOW DOCKET by STEVE VLADECK THURSDAY JUNE 13 AT 1:30PM BOOK CLUB AT MARY'S WOODS, PEPIN BUILDING 565 MESNARD ST., LO

by Margie Whitmore froulady@gmail.com 360-621-9112



The next book is *The Shadow Docket* by Steve Vladeck, hosted by **MaryPat Silveira**, continuing to educate ourselves about history, government, current events, and policy issues, and have fun in the process with spirited discussion, snacks provided and a fun afternoon! The Pepin Building is in the Village Section on the right side of Mesnard Street, with lots of free parking near Ovation Coffee.

OC JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION SATURDAY, JUNE 15

go.lincc.org/ocjuneteenth

Don't miss Oregon City's Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 2:00-5:00 PM in Library Park with speakers, music, poetry, vendors, community information, free refreshments, and more to commemorate Juneteenth, celebrate our local ties to the Black and Indigenous communities, and come together as a community united against racism and working towards inclusion and belonging for all.





CLACKAMAS COUNTY BUDGET VOTE JUNE 20

by Mary Jensen localaction@lwwclackamas.org

The [Clackamas County budget](#) process started about six months ago as various departments and organizations prepared their proposed expenses and revenue needs for the coming year. This process culminates with the information being presented to the Budget Committee, who then deliberate and make a recommendation to the Clackamas Board of County Commissioners. The Committee consists of 10 people; five Commissioners and five citizens. Presentations were made to the Budget Committee on May 28 and 29. Chair Tootie Smith was absent from the presentations, deliberation and vote on May 30.

County Administrator Gary Schmidt made several assurances to the Committee: the budget is balanced, as required by law, and is sustainable and structurally sound (meaning it does not lean on future revenues). The general fund sustained a reduction of \$15 million to make the courthouse payment without causing any significant cuts to other services. Departments that took cuts were able to find other streams of funding. The forecasted budget of just over \$2 billion is the highest ever for Clackamas County. However, most of that money is already allocated or is from appropriated funds. Of that amount, only about \$160 million is available for discretionary funding, which is the amount the Committee considers. The presented budget directed approximately 68% of its funding to public safety. The county continues at 2,450 employees, with no new positions funded.

On May 29, the elected departments presented their requests for funding. Among those was the Clerk's office. Clerk **Catherine McMullen** made the presentation with one of her employees. Previously, the Clerk's office was funded by fees and services, but those are now inadequate to cover the needs of the office and Clerk McMullen sought General Fund assistance in the amount of \$2.641 million, when added to expected revenue from fees and services, the Office of the Clerk budget for FY 24/25 is \$6.153 million. View online at <https://www.clackamas.us/budget/budget-presentations>. Clerk McMullen stated that her office is now fully staffed at 21 FTE, which includes an increase of 2 FTE. She also indicated she is continuing her effort to obtain federal grant funding for added security. In

response to a question from Commissioner Schull regarding whether any cuts could be made, Administrator Schmidt confirmed the Clerk's office is running very lean and no cuts could be accommodated.

The evening of May 29 was the opportunity for public comment. There were only three speakers and all supported the budget. One speaker spoke about increasing the visibility of volunteers, one spoke in appreciation of using General Funds to support the Clerk's office, and the last speaker voiced dissatisfaction with code enforcement efforts. In response, Commissioner Schrader confirmed with Administrator Schmidt that no cuts had been made to code enforcement. On May 30, the Committee met for deliberations and after three hours of discussion, the Committee voted to recommend the budget to the Board. On Thursday, June 20, the Board of Clackamas County Commissioners will vote on the final budget. See the County Administrator's report at <https://dochub.clackamas.us/documents/drupal/074267b0-14d2-4a2f-8bfb-7fa3787f6109>



LEAGUE AND LIBRARIES! LWV PARTNERS WITH AMERICAN LIBRARIES

by Diana DeMaria, Membership Chair membership@lwvclackamas.org

The League of Women Voters and the American Library Association (ALA) are partnering to engage, educate, and empower voters in 2024 and beyond. Leagues have a long history of working with their local libraries to organize educational workshops, share voter information tools like Voters Guides and

VOTE411, and expand civic participation while serving communities with digital access and other barriers to civic participation. Join our Clackamas County and LWVOR network and email Diana if you are interested in library collaboration.

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/templates-graphics/partnership-toolkit-american-library-association-ala>

[Recording: LWV and America's Libraries - Partners to Count On](#) | Passcode: j^j9*?h7



OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON MAY 4

by Libby Medley, Nancy Murray and Carolyn Robb info@lwwclackamas.org

This year's annual business meeting was well attended. The nominating committee put much time and effort into contacting members for board positions. Despite their efforts, most responded they prefer to participate only in short-term activities. As a result, we have adopted a Streamlined Leadership Model proposed by LWVUS, that together with leaders of unit meetings and committee

leaders will allow our local League to still participate in the main mission of defending democracy through our studies and consensus process and monitoring Clackamas County government and emerging issues. We are so fortunate in Oregon to have election processes well in hand, particularly with County Clerk (and fellow League member) **Catherine McMullen**. We elected a “core team” of three (our names are above) to help guide our activities throughout the program year. Our success next year will depend on having enough members participate even in small ways and lend a hand to furthering the work we want to accomplish.

We ended the meeting with bouquets for our departing board officers and directors who did a superb job over the last few years in bringing our technology (website, communications) into the 21st century, reactivated voter service activities after the pandemic, reviewed years of past local studies from many years/decades ago to bring forward national and state positions we can readily use, brought us a number of interesting and informative speakers, and gave time and attention to a lot of new members. Thank you for your many important contributions to our League: **Maureen Mader, Lynette Pierson, Marge Easley, Leslie Westphal, Mary Jensen and Diana DeMaria**.

OUR LEAGUE PATIO PARTY ON JUNE 1

by Core Team | Libby Medley, Nancy Murray and Carolyn Robb
info@lwwclackamas.org

As always, patio party is a great time to come together and visit without anything to accomplish other than to get to know each other better and catch up on members' lives over a yummy potluck lunch and dessert. **Judi Umaki** once again graced our tables with her garden's gorgeous blooms, and **Betty Janes**

capably organized the event, hosted by **June Hensala** and her friend, Vicci Martinazzi.

Thank you to all who contributed and enjoyed our traditional spring gathering. It was lovely and rewarding, being able to become acquainted with some of our newest members.





OUR STATE LEAGUE TO JOIN AMICUS BRIEF ON MEASURE 114

by Marge Easley

On May 1, the LWVOR Board voted unanimously to join with Lift Every Voice Oregon and other community groups in the filing of an amicus curiae brief (friend of the court) related to Measure 114, the firearm safety measure narrowly passed by voters in 2022. The brief is due by June 7 and will support the Oregon Attorney General's appeal before the Oregon Court of Appeals on the question of whether Measure 114 is allowed under the Oregon Constitution.

The appeal follows a December 2022 ruling by Harney County Judge Robert S. Raschio that halted its implementation. The ruling came on the heels of a federal court ruling that confirmed the constitutionality of the measure under the US Constitution. That decision is also on appeal and may very well end up at the US Supreme Court. The amicus brief will support the prompt implementation of Measure 114 during the appeals process, arguing that the safety of Oregonians is at stake. Its provisions include a requirement for a permit to purchase a firearm, a completed background check before any firearm is delivered to the buyer, and a ban on the purchase of large-capacity magazines.

2024 SPRING OREGON STUDENT MOCK ELECTION (OSME) RESULTS

by Mimi Alkire, OSME Coordinator, LWVOR mockelection@lwwor.org



Thank you to all the League members who helped get the word out to Clackamas County educators to register their students for participatory democracy! Students across Oregon voted in the LWVOR 2024 Primary [Oregon Student Mock Election \(OSME\)](#), with a realistic mock ballot experience practicing informed voting research and discussion endorsed by Oregon's Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade and Department of Education.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon created 12 different mock ballots for each local jurisdiction with student registrations. Student ballots mirrored Oregon statewide Primary election ballots, with the same three voting options. Students first decided to vote as a Republican, Democratic, or non-affiliated voter. Then they could vote for US President (partisan), Oregon Attorney General (partisan), and Oregon Supreme Court Position 1 (nonpartisan) on their chosen ballot. Each of the 12 ballots included a fourth nonpartisan local ballot measure or candidate race.

LWVOR invited every Oregon public school district and private/charter/homeschool educator to register for mock ballots, instructions, and lesson plans with linked resources, with over 4600 students from an impressive 26 schools and 14 counties all around Oregon: Baker, Clackamas, Coos, Deschutes, Douglas, Hood River, Klamath, Lane, Linn, Malheur, Marion, Multnomah, and Yamhill. Free and open [LWVOR mock election resources](#) are available YEAR-ROUND, including the award-winning [Civics Education Curriculum](#). Here are two educator responses to using OSME:

“The election went well and sparked some interesting discussions. Kids are excited to see how our results compare to other high schoolers and the statewide primary races.” -Roseburg

“We did a ranked choice voting activity today and then had them do their LWV ballots. This worked great for our elections unit.” -Deschutes County

2024 OREGON STUDENT MOCK ELECTION (OSME) RESULTS:

Republican:

- Donald Trump won US President (uncontested).
- Michael Cross won Oregon Attorney General with 59% of the student vote.

Democratic:

- Marianne Williamson won US President with 51% of the student vote.
- Joe Biden, running for US President, received 49% of the student vote.
- Dan Rayfield won Oregon Attorney General with 51% of the student vote.

Nonpartisan:

- Stephen K Bushong won Oregon Supreme Court Position 1 with 90% of the student vote.

Here are some examples of student local ballot race RESULTS:

- 75% of Eugene students voted YES on Ballot Measure 20-349 to amend Eugene’s city charter to use the STAR Voting Method.
- 50% of Douglas County students voted for John W Hanlin for County Sheriff in a 3-way race.
- 85% of Tri-County area students (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) voted yes on Ballot Measure 26-244, to support issuing Zoo bonds.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21 UNIT MEETING 12:30PM

FOCUS ON SCOTUS: Recommend Part III: Chapters 11-15

‘READING THE CONSTITUTION’ by Stephen Bryer

Dolores Passarelle at dpassar07@gmail.com or (503) 577-9011

SAVE THE DATE and don’t miss the vibrant SCOTUS discussion at the In-Person Unit Meeting at Portera, 8945 SW Ash Meadows Circle! Please **RSVP** for the meeting room location.



1-2-3: TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT NEAR YOU

by **Mary Jensen** localaction@lwwclackamas.org

Observer Corps keeps our government transparent, and our elected and appointed representatives accountable for what they promised as candidates. You can make a difference! It's as easy as....

- 1 Check out our <https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas-county/clackamas-county-civics-calendar>
- 2 Watch the meeting in person, via live streaming or via recorded video on your schedule
- 3 Fill in a single-page form with your observations and send to localaction@lwwclackamas.org

LWVUS CONVENTION JUNE 27-30 IN WASHINGTON DC

by **Diana DeMaria** membership@lwwclackamas.org and **Sarah Napier** voterservice@lwwor.org

LWVUS will have TWO Clackamas County members attending in person this year, **Sarah Napier** and **Diana DeMaria**, who will be your roving reporters with boots on the ground letting you know the business, opportunities and impact of your League at the local, state and national level. Thank you for the honor of representing you at national Convention as your delegates. EMail us any requests for networking or issue discussion from the [2024 Convention Agenda](#).

Lobby Day on Thursday, June 27

- We are requesting appointments to talk to our Senators and Representatives or staff

Convention Happenings on Friday, June 28

- Convention training
- Issue Caucuses and Workshops
- Budget Session
- Meet the Nominees for the 2024-2026 LWVUS Board of Directors
<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/2024-2026-lwvus-board-nominating-committee-slate>

Convention Business on Saturday, June 29

- Pre-Plenary Session and Plenary
- Issue Caucuses and Workshops

Convention Happenings on Sunday, June 30

- Pre-Plenary Session and Plenary to complete voting
- Check out and find our way back to Oregon!



UPDATE

JOIN A CLACKAMAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD AND COMMISSION

Volunteer applications are being accepted for several ABCs including the Leaders for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Council and the Developmental Disabilities Council. There are over 40 ABCs and [new openings](#) are posted all the time.



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHUTTLE SERVICE

The Clackamas County transit shuttle service helps relieve congestion on county roads and they provide critical, last-mile connections between regional transit.

The shuttles are a free “deviated fixed-route” service, and if you can’t make it to the main bus stop or route, you can make arrangements 24 hours in advance by calling 971-358-0623 to check availability to be picked up or dropped off within ¾ mile from the route. You can also signal/flag the bus to get on or off the bus in-between stops.



FRIEND OR FOLLOW TO GET CONNECTED TO EVENTS, NEWS AND UPDATES!



Communications Team communications@lwvclackamas.org
2024 Making Democracy Work



League of Women Voters of Clackamas County



LWV of Clackamas County @LWVClackamas

[Program Recordings on our Civic Education Channel](#)



@lwvclackamas



LWV ClackamasCounty



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LWV of Clackamas County @LWVClackamas

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of Clackamas County
PO Box 411
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
EMail: info@lwvclackamas.org
www.lwvclackamas.org

Join the League of Women Voters of Clackamas County!

Name(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____

- I am a new member!
- I am renewing my membership.
- This is a gift membership. (Please provide the recipient's contact information above.)
- I am interested in volunteering for the League. Please contact me.

Annual dues: \$70 Individual. \$105 Household. Full-time student attending an accredited institution or adult under age 25 free! Membership grants are available. Pay online (<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/clackamas>) or mail this form. Please make checks payable to LWVCC, PO Box 411, Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Membership dues and donations are now tax deductible.

Total Enclosed _____